

Message Text

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TAGS: WMO, ECLA, UNDP

SUBJ: HURRICANE SURVEY MISSION TO CARIBBEAN

REF: TELCON HUGHES, NOAA TO CARTWRIGHT

1. WMO TC DEPARTMENT BELIEVES IMPORTANT TO HAVE RECOGNIZED TROPICAL METEOROLOGICST TO ASSIST UNDP/ECLA/WMO MISSION TO CARIBBEAN AND CENTRAL AMERICAN COUNTRIES TO SURVEY FACILITIES AND SERVICES NOW AVAILABLE FOR HURRICANE DETECTION, TRACKING AND WARNING AND FOR FLOOD FORECASTING SERVICES THAT REGION. MISSION WILL INCLUDE UNDP/ECLA REPRESENTATIVES, PLUS METEROLOGICAL AND HYDROLOGICAL EXPERTS.

2. FOLLOWING IS RESUME OF TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR MISSION, WHICH HAVE BEEN ACCEPTED BY UNDP:

A. VISIT PROSPECTIVE PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES TO GATHER INFORMATION ON TECHNICAL FACILITIES AND INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS, ESPECIALLY AS REGARDS EXISTENCE OF WEATHER RADAR INSTALLATIONS, SATELLITE GROUND STATIONS (APT), SYNOPTIC AND HYDROMETEOROLOGICAL NETWORKS; TELECOMMUNICATIONS SYSTEMS; FLOOD FORECASTING AND WARNING SERVICES; COMMUNITY PREPAREDNESS; TRAINING FACILITIES;

B. PREPARE DETAILED PROPOSALS FOR HURRICANE AND FLOOD WARNING SERVICES AND FOR IMPROVEMENT OF RELATED FACILITIES. MISSION WILL MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING THE NEED FOR:

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A) ADDITIONAL OBSERVING STATIONS OF ALL TYPES, B) EXPANSION

OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES, C) REGIONAL TRAINING CENTER FOR INSTRUMENT CALIBRATION AND REPAIR, AND D) REGIONAL CENTER TO PROVIDE SUPPORT TO NATIONAL SERVICES FOR NON-REALTIME DATA PROCESSING AND ARCHIVING. THE TERMS OF REFERENCE STRESS THE NEED TO AVOID DUPLICATION WITH EXISTING CENTERS, SUCH AS THE HURRICANE FORECAST CENTER AT MIAMI.

3. TIME TABLE FOR MISSION, WHICH WMO FEELS MAY BE OVERLY OPTIMISTIC, AS NOTIFICATION TO PARTICIPATING STATES NOT EXPECTED TO BE MAILED UNTIL FIRST WEEK IN JULY, IS AS FOLLOWS: 28 JULY - BRIEFING OF MISSION BY UNDP AND WMO STAFFS AT UN NY; 5 SEPTEMBER - COMPLETION OF SURVEY AND COMMENCE PREPARATION OF REPORT AT ECLA HEADQUARTERS, MEXICO; 15-16 SEPTEMBER - DEBRIEFING OF SURVEY TEAM AT UNDP NEW YORK. IF TWO WMO EXPERTS AVAILABLE IN TIME, WMO PLANS TECHNICAL BRIEFINGS ONE OR TWO DAYS IN GENEVA BEFORE START OF MISSION.

4. WMO APPRECIATE INDICATION BY 2 JULY WHAT LIKELIHOOD US MAY BE ABLE TO PROVIDE WELL-QUALIFIED TROPICAL METEOROLOGIST, EVEN IF A FINAL SELECTION OF EXPERT NOT YET MADE.

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